AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 15, as follows:

Modification of oligos with phosphorothioate internucleotide linkages can impart nuclease resistance and thus extend the *in vitro* bioactivity from 1 - 2h to 24h (Stein, (1993) *Science* 261: 1004-1012). Here, we demonstrated that the G-rich oligo, ~~FIGURE 1A~~ FIGURES 1A, 1B (Seq #4) had greater *in vitro* stability than a non-G-rich phosphorothioate, ~~FIGURE 1B~~ FIGURES 1C, 1D (Seq #21). In Figure 1A the electropherograms clearly show that, for both extracellular 1A (S) and cell 1B (L), considerably more intact ^{32}P-labeled FIGURE 1A (Seq #4) than FIGURE 1B (Seq #21) remained following a 96h incubation with Jurkat cells. Consistent with this observation are the Nickspin column data (Figure 1B). Here, the percentage of intact oligo recovered from FIGURE ~~1A~~ 1E (Seq #4) after 96h was 54% (S) and 59% (L) and from FIGURE ~~1B~~ 1F (Seq #21) was 10% (S) and 34% (L). These data suggest that greater nuclease resistance is imparted purely by the presence of G-rich regions in FIGURE 1A (Seq #4) and this is presumably associated with the ability of this particular oligo to form folded secondary structures.